

Merchants' Exchange Block (Eagle Furniture Building)
94-102 North Main Street
Concord
Merrimack County
New Hampshire

HABS No. NH-207

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

REDUCED COPY OF MEASURED DRAWING

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
MID-ATLANTIC REGION NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19106

STATE New Hampshire	COUNTY Merrimack	TOWN OR VICINITY Concord
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Merchants' Exchange Block (period views, maps)		HABS NO. NH-207
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Eagle Furniture Building		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 94-102 North Main Street, Concord, New Hampshire 03301		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) c. 1850 (inspection, period maps)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Unknown	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Though substantially altered through the years, the Merchants' Exchange Block is representative of the first generation of major commercial development in the city of Concord. The structure is located (cont.)		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Greek Revival (altered)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Load bearing masonry (brick) with interior wooden framing. Building's (cont)		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Twelve bay rectangle lacking rear (SE) corner. (cont.)		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Principal facade (W) is faced in pressed brick laid in American bond with plain lime mortar. Facade includes a corbelled brick entablature with projecting, granite cornice supported by staggered brick dentils. (cont.)		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) First story of the structure is divided into three retail units. Principal access to these units is gained through individual storefronts located on the structure's principal facade (W). Each unit occupies the depth (cont.)		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Addition of full fourth story - c. 1870 (period views, maps) (cont.)		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Good - Until recently occupied by retail stores and offices.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE Structure is included in the Eagle Square Redevelopment Project, a commercial redevelopment project centering around a public plaza (cont.)		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDE LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) <u>Determination of Eligibility for the Eagle Square Historic District to be Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, February 27, 1980. (cont.)</u>		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Kathryn M. Kuranda	DATE October 21, 1981	

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

Continuation Sheet #1

Merchants' Exchange Block
94-102 N. Main St.
Concord, NH

SIGNIFICANCE:

in the Eagle Square Historic District, an area determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places by the New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Officer. The Merchants' Exchange Block, which occupies a site facing the New Hampshire State Capital, has historically served a commercial use with multiple retail units traditionally located in the lower two stories and offices in the upper two stories.

MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION:

shed roof is clad in asphalt shingles. Upper stories include granite sills, lintels and cornice. East elevation storefronts combine plate glass, aluminum, granite and cast iron.

SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE:

Overall dimensions: 83'-9" X 106'-6".

EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE:

Cut granite sills and lintels survive on the second, third and fourth stories of the principal facade (W) and on all stories of the north, east and south elevations. Evidence of early storefront design can be found in the southernmost retail unit, east elevation (The Thorne Shoe Co.), and includes cut granite and cast iron piers with transomed display windows.

INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE:

of the first story in its respective bay. Eagle Furniture Co., located in the northernmost retail unit also includes upper story, rear (E) storage areas.

Principal access to the building's upper floors is gained through a recessed entry located in the center bay, west elevation. This bay includes evidence of a four story stairhall which originally rose the height of the building.

Second story offices are arranged around a series of three connecting center halls. (fig. 1) Evidence of original design can be found in surviving Greek Revival detailing in offices A, C and D. Office A includes original, Greek Revival windows with simple, feather planed surrounds and elliptical muntin profiles on the sash. Simple, Greek

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

Continuation Sheet #2

Merchants' Exchange Block
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INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE:

Revival door surrounds, similar to those of the windows, enframe the interior face of the room's principal door. Offices C and D contain more elaborate, pedimented window surrounds, also of Greek Revival derivation. The remaining offices of the second floor have been substantially altered over the years with contemporary trim and wall finishes.

The third story of the structure was last used as a radio station. Alterations to the floor plan and the addition of acoustical tile wall and ceiling finishes suggest this use. The plan of the floor is oriented to a center hall. Offices are located on the west side of the floor and studios to the east side.

The structure's fourth floor is unfinished. The space is roughly divided into three adjoining rooms. Typical finishes include simple board floors and exposed brick walls and ceiling members. Evidence of original chimney locations can be found on the north end wall. The south wall includes evidence of fire damage dating c. 1950 and the destruction of the south six bays of the third and fourth stories.

MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES:

Demolition of the 6 southernmost bays of the 3rd and 4th stories, west elevation following fire - c. 1950.

OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE:

with portions of the project underwritten by the Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and a grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) through the Department of the Interior.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

Map of the Village of Concord, (Concord, NH: Rufus Merrill, 1851)
In the collection of the New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord.

Plan of Compact Portion of Concord, C. V. C. Corvis, Engineer,
March, 1862. In the collection of the New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord.

Views of Concord, undated. In the collection of the New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord.

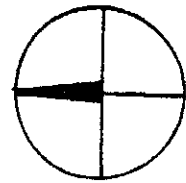
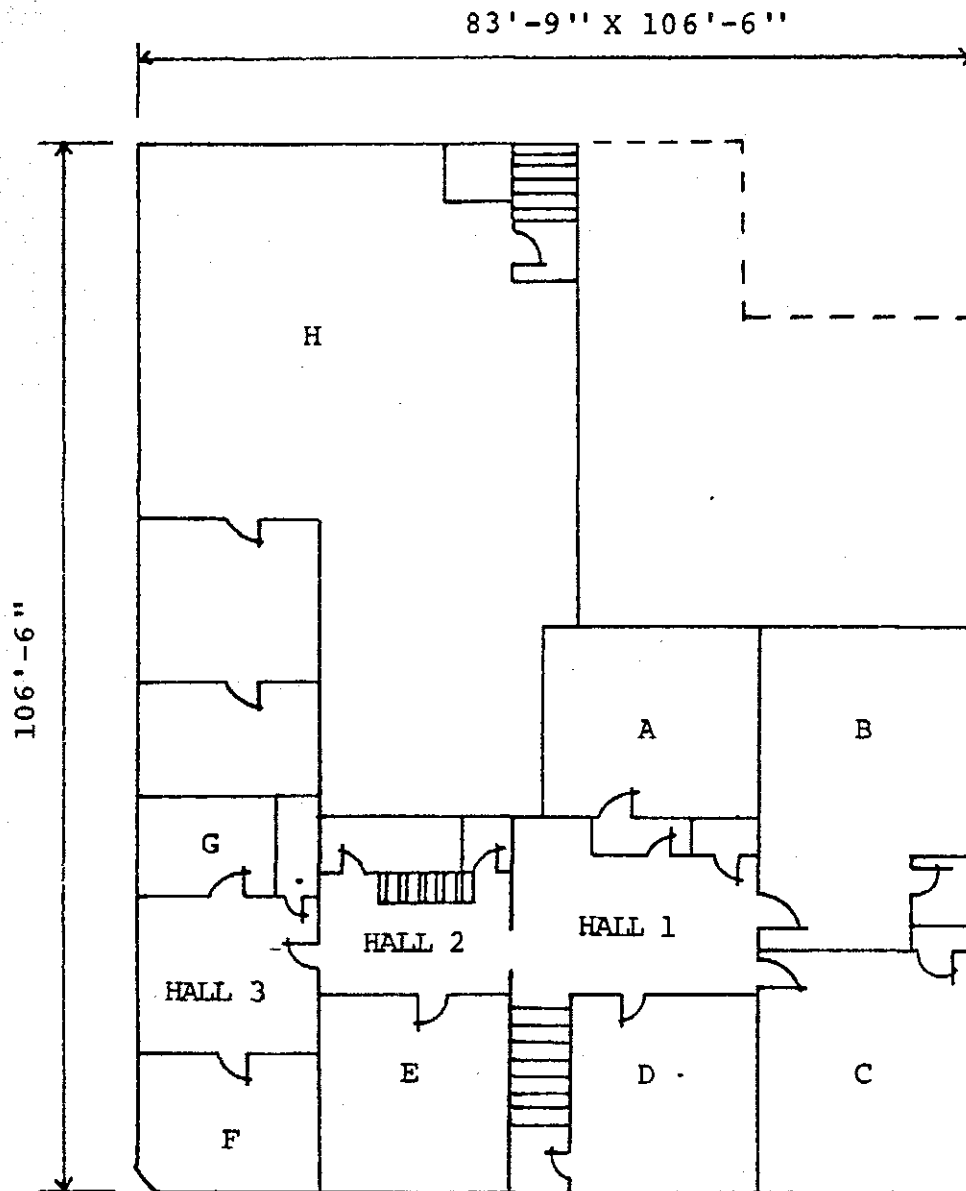
ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

Continuation Sheet #3

Merchants' Exchange Block
94-102 N. Main St.
Concord, NH

COMPILER, AFFILIATION:

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DIMENSIONS:

A - 21'-0"	X 22'-4"
B - 18'-4"	X 33'-9"
C - 18'-4"	X 24'-8"
D - 18'-3"	X 20'-6"
E - 20'-4"	X 18'-0"
F - 18'-4"	X 14'-0"
G - 14'-9"	X 10'-2"
H - 42'-0"	X 68'-0"

FIGURE 1
MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE BLOCK
94-102 N. MAIN ST.
CONCORD, NH

2ND FLR PLAN / NOT TO SCALE
OCTOBER 21, 1981